

Docket No.: FRON-10193
Application No.: 10/823,476
Amendment Date: February 13, 2007
Reply of Office Action of: October 13, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 16-48 are currently pending in the application. Applicant has canceled claims 1-15, 17-18, 31-32 and 48. Applicant has amended claims 16, 19, 21-22, 30 and 33-34. Applicant requests reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §102

Examiner has rejected claims 16, 17, 21, 22, 26, 27, 30, 31, 37-39, 42-45 and 48 and has objected to claims 18-20, 23-25, 28, 29, 32-36, 40, 41 and 46-47. Examiner indicates that claims 18-20, 23-25, 28, 29, 32-36, 40, 41 and 46-47 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections to claims 16, 17, 21, 22, 26, 27, 30, 31, 37-39, 42-45 and 48. However, to expedite the prosecution of this application and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, Applicant has canceled claim 48. Applicant has also canceled dependent claims 17-18 and incorporated their limitations into independent claim 16. Further, applicant has canceled dependent claims 31-32 and incorporated their limitations into independent claim 30. Applicant believes that these changes put claims 16 and 30 in condition for allowance, as indicated by Examiner. Applicant may file one or more of these claims in a divisional and continuation application.

Applicant has amended dependent claims 19 and 21-23 to depend from independent claim 16. Further, Applicant has amended dependent claims 33-34 to depend from independent claim 30. Applicant points out that if an independent claim is non-obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is non-obvious (See MPEP 2143.03). Applicant believes that independent claims 19-29 and 33-47 are allowable since they depend, either directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claims 16 and 30, respectfully.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that claims 16, 19-30 and 33-47 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to that effect be issued in this case. None of the claim amendments introduce new matter into the application. If any fees, including extension of time fees or additional claims fees, are due as a result of this response, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0513. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 13, 2007

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